



Executive Director
John R. Gargotta

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

President
Roberta Young, CPA

Vice President
Christina Levine

Secretary
Bruce Voelkel

Treasurer
Ted Perrella, CPA

Edward N. Aqua, D. Eng

Martin E. Bloomfield, M.D.

Jorge F. DeApodaca

Vera Groover

Stuart A. Rosenfeldt, Esq.

Anita Smith

Lesley Tobin

Penny Wools

October 23, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear FCC Commissioners:

I am writing to urge your approval of the AT&T-BellSouth merger. As the Executive Director of Senior Volunteer Services, sponsoring the three Senior Corps Programs of the Corporation for National and Community Service, I believe that this merger will serve the public interest and greatly benefit customers of the combined company including those served by our organization. We serve low-income seniors, homebound frail elderly, disabled adults, special needs children, and other non-profits and public agencies through volunteer services.

The commitments that AT&T recently announced for much greater broadband affordability and availability would be especially beneficial to clientele of the Senior Volunteer Services. Many of the low income and disadvantaged people we serve have not had the same access to information that broadband services can bring. Access to broadband would bring great benefits to this population, especially the homebound that could depend on the internet for vital information.

I understand that AT&T has proposed to the Commission a commitment to provide its dial access customers a free modem for upgrading to DSL service. I also understand the company has offered to make available a \$10 monthly residential broadband offering as well as deliver broadband capability to all residential units in its combined territory, including lower-income and rural areas. These commitments will drive high-speed broadband usage and help bring economic prosperity to many of our senior adults.

I urge the Commission to approve the merger of AT&T and BellSouth promptly so that all consumers can benefit as soon as possible from the broadband provisions this merger offers.



Broward County
Public Schools

